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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/748,281
Filing Date	December 31, 2003
First Named Inventor	Hiroyuki Okuhira
Art Unit	N/A
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	ION-0221

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ³
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
MA	BA	JP-09-169829-A1	06-30-1997	The Yokohama Rubber Co., Ltd.		
MA	BB	JP-10-183058-A1	07-07-1998	Mitsui Chem Inc.		
MA	BC	JP-11-322894-A1	11-26-1999	Dainippon Ink & Chem Inc.		
MA	BD	JP-2002-037841-A1	02-06-2002	The Yokohama Rubber Co., Ltd.		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²

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Examiner Signature	Max J. Jones	Date Considered	4/16/05
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